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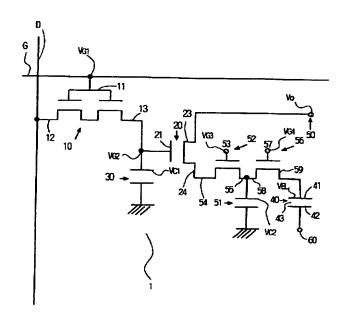
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(54) 【発明の名称】エレクトロルミネッセンス表示装置の駆動回路

(57)【要約】

【課題】 EL素子への電流供給量の制御を容易に行うことができ、各表示画素間における発光量の均一性向上を図るEL表示装置の駆動回路を提供する。

【解決手段】 陽極、陰極及びこの両電極の間に挟まれた発光素子層から成るEL素子40と、ドレイン電極12がドレイン信号線Dに、ゲート電極11がゲート信号線Gにそれぞれ接続された第1のTFT10と、ソース電極が第3のTFT52に、ドレイン電極が駆動電源50に、ゲート電極が第1のTFT10のソース電極に接続された第2のTFTと、を備えており、その第2のTFT20とEL素子40との間に、10kH2の外部信号に応じてスイッチングする第3及び第4のTFT52、56によって、第3及び第4のTFT52、56によって、第3及び第4のTFTの間の充電用容量51に充電及び放電を繰り返し、その放電によってEL素子40に電流を供給する。



10

2

【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 陽極及び陰極を備えたエレクトロルミネッセンス素子と、ソース電極が保持容量に、ドレイン電極がドレイン信号線に、ゲート電極がゲート信号線にそれぞれ接続された第1の薄膜トランジスタと、ドレイン電極が前記エレクトロルミネッセンス素子の駆動電源に、ゲート電極が前記第1の薄膜トランジスタのソース電極にそれぞれ接続された第2の薄膜トランジスタのソース電極と、前記エレクトロルミネッセンス素子の陽極との間に、所定周期の外部信号に応じてスイッチングする第3及び第4の薄膜トランジスタの間に充電用容量とを備えたことを特徴とするエレクトロルミネッセンス表示装置の駆動回路。

【請求項2】 前記第3の薄膜トランジスタと前記第4 の薄膜トランジスタは交互にオンオフすることを特徴と する請求項1に記載のエレクトロルミネッセンス表示装 置の駆動回路。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は、エレクトロルミネッセンス(ElectroLuminescence:以下、「EL」と称する。)素子及び薄膜トランジスタ(Thin Film Transistor:以下、「TFT」と称する。)を備えたEL表示装置の駆動回路に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】近年、EL素子を用いたEL表示装置が、CRTやLCDに代わる表示装置として注目されている。また、そのEL素子を駆動させるスイッチング素子としてTFTを備えた表示装置も研究開発されている。

【0003】図5に、従来の有機EL表示装置の回路図を示す。同図に示す如く、従来の有機EL表示装置の表示画素1は、第1のTFT100、第2のTFT200、保持容量300及び有機EL素子400からなる。

ゲート信号を供給するゲート信号線Gとドレイン信号を 供給するドレイン信号線Dとが直交しており、両信号線 G、Dの交差点付近には、有機EL素子400及びこの 有機EL素子400を駆動するTFT100, 200が 設けられている。

【0004】まず、第1のTFT100は、ゲート信号線Gに接続されゲート信号が供給されるゲート電極110と、ドレイン信号線Dに接続されドレイン信号が供給されるドレイン電極120と、第2のTFT200のゲート電極210及び保持容量300に接続されているソース電極130とからなる。次に、第2のTFT200は、第1のTFT100のソース電極130に接続されているゲート電極210と、有機EL素子400の陽極410に接続されたソース電極220と、有機EL素子400に供給され有機EL素子400を駆動する駆動電源500に接続されたドレイン電極230とを備えている。

【0005】また、有機EL素子400は、第2のTFT200のソース電極220に接続された陽極410と、画素電極600に接続された陰極420、及びこの陽極410及び陰極420の間に挟まれた発光素子層430とから成る。ゲート信号線Gからゲート信号が第1のTFT100がオンになり、ドレイン信号線Dから供給されたドレイン信号が第2のTFT200のゲート電極210及び保持容量300に印加される。それによって、第2のTFT200がオンになり駆動電源500から有機EL素子400に第2のTFT200のゲート電圧に応じた電流が流れて有機EL素子400の発光素子層430が発光する

【0006】有機EL素子400は、ITO (Indium Thin 0xide) 等の透明電極から成る陽極410、MTD ATA (4,4'-bis(3-methylphenylphenylamino)biphenyl) から成る第1ホール輸送層、TPD (4,4',4"-tris(3-methylphenylphenylamino)triphenylanine)からなる第2ホール輸送層、キナクリドン (Quinacridone)誘導体を含むBebq2(10-ベンゾ[h]キノリノールーベリリウム錯体)から成る発光層、Bebq2から成る電子輸送層の各層からなる発光素子層430、マグネシウム・インジウム合金から成る陰極420がこの順番で積層形成されている。

【0007】また有機EL素子は、陽極から注入されたホールと、陰極から注入された電子とが発光層の内部で再結合し、発光層を形成する有機分子を励起して励起子が生じる。この励起子が放射失活する過程で発光層から光が放たれ、この光が透明な陽極から透明絶縁基板を介して外部へ放出されて発光する。

[0008]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】ところが、EL表示装置の面内において均一で安定した表示を得るためには各

表示画素のEL素子を同一光量で発光させる必要があるが、各表示画素に備えられた第2のTFT200の特性にはばらつきがあるため、上述の従来のEL表示装置の駆動回路ではEL素子に供給する電流量を均一にすることができず、その電流量の不均一が各表示画素毎の表示むらとして現れるという欠点があった。

【0009】即ち、TFT製造中にマスクパターンずれ等により各第2のTFTのサイズがばらつき、各第2のTFTにおいて同じゲート電圧が印加されてもドレインに流れる電流値がばらついてしまい、従ってEL素子に 10供給される電流値が各表示画素ごとに異なるのでEL素子の発光強度もばらつくことになるため、表示むらとして現れることになる。

【0010】そこで本発明は、上記の従来の欠点に鑑みて為されたものであり、EL素子への電流供給量の制御を容易に行うことができ、各表示画素間における発光量の均一性向上を図ったEL表示装置の駆動回路を提供することを目的とする。

[0011]

【課題を解決するための手段】本発明のEL表示装置の 20 駆動回路は、陽極及び陰極を備えたエレクトロルミネッセンス素子と、ソース電極が保持容量に、ドレイン電極がドレイン信号線に、ゲート電極がゲート信号線にそれぞれ接続された第1の薄膜トランジスタと、ドレイン電極がエレクトロルミネッセンス素子の駆動電源に、ゲート電極が第1の薄膜トランジスタのソース電極にそれぞれ接続された第2の薄膜トランジスタと、を備えており、第2の薄膜トランジスタのソース電極と、エレクトロルミネッセンス素子の陽極との間に、所定周期の外部信号に応じてスイッチングする第3及び第4の薄膜トランジスタの間に充電用容量とを備えたものである。

【0012】また、第3の薄膜トランジスタと第4の薄 膜トランジスタは交互にオンオフする。また、本発明の EL表示装置の駆動回路は、陽極、及び駆動電源に接続 された陰極を備えたエレクトロルミネッセンス素子と、 ソース電極が保持容量に、ドレイン電極がドレイン信号 線に、ゲート電極がゲート信号線にそれぞれ接続された 第1の薄膜トランジスタと、ドレイン電極が前記エレク トロルミネッセンス素子の駆動電源に、ゲート電極が第 40 1の薄膜トランジスタのソース電極にそれぞれ接続され た第2の薄膜トランジスタと、を備えており、第2の薄 膜トランジスタのソース電極とエレクトロルミネッセン ス素子の陽極との間に、第1のダイオード及び第2のダ イオードが直列に接続されるとともに、これら第1のダ イオードと第2のダイオードとの間に充電用容量を備え るとともに、周期的に異なる電位を供給する駆動電源を 備えている。

[0013]

【発明の実施の形態】 <第1の実施の形態>本発明のE 50

L表示装置の駆動回路について以下に説明する。図1は、本実施の形態の有機EL素子及びTFTを備えたEL表示装置の回路図であり、図2(a)は第1のTFTのゲート電極に供給される信号VG1、(b)は第2のTFTのゲート電極に供給される信号VG2、(c)は駆動電源の信号V0、(d)は第3のTFTのゲート電極に供給される信号VG3、(e)は第4のTFTのゲート電極に供給される信号VG4、(f)は充電用容量に蓄積される信号VC、(g)は有機EL素子の発光の信号VELの信号波形図である。

【0014】本実施の形態のEL表示装置の駆動回路 は、第1のTFT10、第2のTFT20、保持容量3 0、有機EL素子40、駆動電源50、第3及び第4の TFT52、56及び充電用容量51とから成ってい る。図1に示す如く、第1のTFT11及び保持容量1 5は前述の従来と同様の回路構成及び駆動方法である。 【0015】第2のTFT20のゲート電極21は、第 1のTFT10のソース電極13及び保持容量30の一 方の電極に接続され、そのドレイン電極23は有機EL 素子40の駆動電源50に接続されている。また、その ソース電極24は、第3のTFT52のドレイン電極5 4に接続されている。第3及び第4のTFT52, 56 のゲート電極53,57にはそれぞれ外部から周期的な 信号VG3, VG4が供給される。この信号VG3とV G4とは互いに位相が反転した信号である。また第3の TFT52のソース電極55と第4のTFT56のドレ イン電極58とは接続されている。この第3及び第4の TFT52,56の間には充電用容量51が接続されて いる。また、第4のTFT56のソース電極59は有機 EL素子40の陽極41に接続されており、有機EL素 子40の陰極42は表示電極60に接続されている。

【0016】このように構成された有機EL素子及びTFTからなる表示画素1がマトリクス状に配置されることにより、EL表示装置の表示パネルが形成されている。次に、本発明のEL表示装置の駆動方法について図1及び図2に従って説明する。第1のTFT10のゲート電極11に図2(a)のようにゲート信号線Gのゲート信号VG1が供給されて、第1のTFT10がオン状態になる。そうすると、ドレイン信号線Dからのドレイン信号が第2のTFT20のゲート電極21及び保持容量30に供給され、図2(b)に示すように第2のTFT20にはVG2が印加されてオン状態が1フィールド期間保持される(このとき保持容量30の一方の電極電位VC1はVG2と同じ電位となる)。

【0017】そうすると、駆動電源50(電位V0)より、ゲート電極21の電圧VG2に応じた電圧が第3のTFT52のドレイン電極54に供給される。このとき、第3及び第4のTFT52、56のゲート電極53、57には図2(d)及び(e)に示す信号電圧VG3、VG4が供給される。同図の如く、信号VG3とV

G4とは互いに位相が反転しており、それによって第3 及び第4のTFT52,56は交互にオン状態になる。

【0018】即ち、充電用容量51の電圧VC2は、図2(f)のように、信号VG3がオン信号で信号VG4がオフ信号になると充電され、信号VG3がオフ信号で信号VG4がオン信号になると放電される。このように信号VG3、VG4によって充放電(1発光サイクル)が繰り返される。従って、第3のTFT52がオン状態になったときは第4のTFT56がオフ状態であるから、第2のTFT20を介して第3のTFT52のドレイン電極54に供給された駆動電源50の電圧は充電用容量51に蓄積される。

【0019】また、第3のTFT52がオフ状態になったときは第4のTFT56はオン状態であるから、充電用容量51に蓄積された電荷が放電される。こうして、第3のTFT52がオン状態のときに充電用容量51に充電された電荷が、第3のTFT52がオフ状態で第4のTFT56がオン状態になったときに第4のTFT56のドレイン電極58及びソース電極59を介して有機EL素子40の陽極41に供給される。そうすることに20より、図2(g)のVELのように、電圧VC2に応じて1発光サイクル毎に有機EL素子40が発光する。

【0020】ここで、各表示画素における第2のTFTの特性がそれぞればらついていても、有機EL素子には安定して電流が供給されることについて説明する。まず、あるゲート電圧を印加したときのドレインに流れる電流値がそれぞれIda、Idb(Ida>Idb)である、即ち電流特性のばらついた第2のTFTa, bがあったと仮定する。

【0021】従来のようなEL表示装置の駆動回路を用 30 いた場合、電流値が異なるTFTa, bであると、一方の電流値の高いTFTa(Ida)は多くの電流を有機 EL素子に供給することができるのでそのTFTaに接続された有機EL素子の発光強度は強いが、他方の電流値の低いTFTb(Idb)はTFTaのように多くの電流を有機EL素子に供給することはできないため、そのTFTbに接続された有機EL素子の発光強度はTFTaに接続された有機EL素子よりも発光強度が弱くなる。従って、TFTa及びTFTbに接続されたそれぞれの有機EL素子の明るさにばらつきが生じることにな 40 る。

【0022】ところが、本発明のEL表示装置の駆動回路によれば、図1中の第2のTFT20及び第3のTFT30がオンになった場合、充電用容量51には第2のTFT20のゲートに印加された電圧VG2まで充電され(VG2=VC2)、その充電された電圧に応じた電流値が有機EL素子に供給されることになるので、上述した各第2のTFTa, bのように電流特性が異なるTFTであったとしても、有機EL素子には同じ電流値が供給されることになる。言い換えると、TFTの電流特50

性に差があっても充電されるまでの時間は異なるものの 充電されて到達する充電尿容量の電圧は同じである。

【0023】従って、有機EL素子に供給される電流は充電用容量に充電された電圧に応じた電流であることから、第2のTFTの特性がばらついていたとしても有機EL素子には同じ値の電流が流れることになる。即ち、各第2のTFTの特性がばらついていても、その特性には関係なく各表示画素の有機EL素子に同じ電流値を供給することができるため、各有機EL素子の発光量が等しくなり均一な明るさの表示を得ることができる。

【0024】なお、第3及び第4のTFTに外部より供給する信号によるオンオフの繰り返し、即51フィールド期間の有機 E L 素子の1発光サイクルは第2のTFTから充電用容量に印加されるまでの時間に応じて、例えば10kHzのように決定すればよい。

<第2の実施形態>以下に、本発明のEL表示装置の駆動回路の第2の実施形態を示す。

【0025】図3は本発明の第2の実施形態の回路図であり、図4は、各信号の信号波形図である。図4(a)は第1のTFTのゲート電極に供給される信号VG1、

(b) は第2のTFTのゲート電極に供給される信号VG2、(c) は駆動電源の信号V0、(d) は第1のダイオードに供給される信号VD1、(e) は第2のダイオードに供給される信号VD2、(f) は充電用容量に蓄積される信号VC2、(g) は有機EL素子の発光の信号VELの信号波形図である。

【0026】図3に示す如く、第1のTFT21及び保持容量23については第1の実施形態の回路構成及び駆動と同じである。第2のTFT20のゲート電極21は第1のTFT10のソース電極13及び保持容量30の一方の電極に接続され、そのドレイン電極23は有機EL素子40の駆動電源50に接続されている。また、そのソース電極24は、第1のダイオード70のアノード71に接続されている。

【0027】第1のダイオード70のカソード72と、第2のダイオード80のアノード81とは直列に接続されている。この第1及び第2のダイオード70,80の間には、充電用容量51の一方の電極が接続されている。充電用容量51の他方の電極は接地されている。第2のダイオード80のカソード82は有機EL素子40の陽極41に接続されている。

【0028】また、有機EL素子40の陰極42は駆動電源50に接続されている。このように構成された表示画素1がマトリクス状に配置されることにより、有機EL表示装置が形成される。ここで、駆動電源50が供給する電圧について図3及び図4に従って説明する。

【0029】第1のTFT10のゲート電極11に図4 (a)のようにゲート信号線Gのゲート信号VG1が供給されて、第1のTFT10がオン状態になる。そうすると、ドレイン信号線Dからのドレイン信号が第2のT FT20のゲート電極21及び保持容量30に供給され、図4(b)に示すように第2のTFT20にはVG2が印加されてオン状態が1フィールド期間保持される(このとき保持容量30の一方の電極電位VC1はVG2と同じ電位となる)。

【0030】駆動電源50は、図4(c)に示すように 所定の周期、例えば10kHzの周波数で、有機EL素 子40を発光させるための充電時電圧V10と放電時電 圧V20とを交互に供給している。このとき、充電時電 圧V10は充電用容量51に充電されている電圧よりも 10 高い電圧であり、放電時電圧V20は充電用容量51に 充電されている電圧よりも低い電圧である。

【0031】即ち、駆動電源50の電圧が充電時電圧V10の場合には、第1のダイオード70の向きに電流が流れて(図4(d))充電用容量51が充電され(図4(f))、駆動電源50の電圧が放電時電圧V20の場合には、第2のダイオード80の向きに電流が流れて(図4(e))充電用容量51から放電されて(図4(f))有機EL素子40にその電流が供給されて発光する(図4(g))。

【0032】このとき、第1のダイオード70の向きに流れているときには他方のダイオード80の向きには電流は流れず、第2のダイオード80の向きに電流が流れているときには他方のダイオード70には電流は流れない。従って、駆動電源50の充電時電圧V10と放電時電圧V20とが所定周期で交互に供給されることにより、充電用容量51はその周期で充電と放電を繰り返すことになる。

【0033】このように駆動電源50の電圧が有機EL素子40に供給されて発光するまでの駆動方法について、点線の枠で囲んだ領域の等価回路に注目して説明する。第2のTFT20がオン状態になり(図4

(b))、駆動電源50より充電時電圧V10が供給されている期間、第1のダイオード70を経由して充電用容量51に第2のTFT20のゲート電圧VG2(図4(b))に応じた電圧が充電される。そして、その後駆動電源50が放電時電圧V20に切り換わると充電用容量51に充電された電荷が第2のダイオード80を経由して有機EL素子40に供給されて発光する。

【0034】この動作が、保持容量30にドレイン信号 40を書き込んでいる期間、即ち1フィールドの間に上述の如く例えば10kHzの周波数で繰り返し行われる。このように、保持容量にドレイン信号が1回書き込まれる

期間中に、充電時電圧V10及び放電時電圧V20が一 定周期で繰り返して駆動電源50から供給されることに よって充電用容量51に電荷の充電及び放電が繰り返し 行われることになる。

【0035】従って、第1の実施の形態で説明したよう

に、有機EL素子に供給される電流値は、充電用容量に充電された電圧、即ち第2のTFTのゲート電極の電圧VG2に応じた電流値であるため、各表示画素の第2TFTの特性がばらついていたとしても、安定した電流を有機EL素子に供給することができるので、各表示画素において均一な発光量のEL表示を得ることができる。【0036】なお、充電時電圧と放電時電圧との供給サイクル、即ち有機EL素子の1発光サイクルは第2のTFTから充電用容量に印加されるまでの時間に応じて、例えば10kHzのように決定すればよい。また、本実施の形態においては、第1の実施の形態の如く、第3及び第4のTFTのオン/オフを切り換えるための信号を外部から供給する信号配線を省略することができるとともに、さらにその省略により開口率を向上させることができる。

[0037]

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【発明の効果】本発明のEL表示装置の駆動回路によれば、第2のTFTの特性ばらつきの影響を受けることなくEL素子に電流を供給でき、EL表示パネル内の各表示画素の発光量の均一性を向上させることができる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の第1の実施形態を示す回路図である。

【図2】本発明の第1の実施の形態を示す信号波形図である。

) 【図3】本発明の第2の実施形態を示す回路図である。

【図4】本発明の第2の実施の形態を示す信号波形図である。

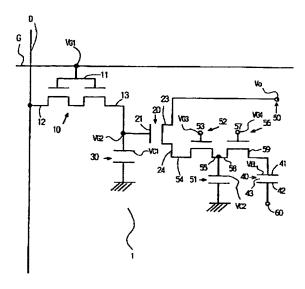
【図5】従来のEL表示装置の回路図である。 【符号の説明】

1 0	第1のTFT
2 0	第2のTFT
3 0	保持容量
5 0	電源
5 1	充電用容量
5 3	第3のTFT

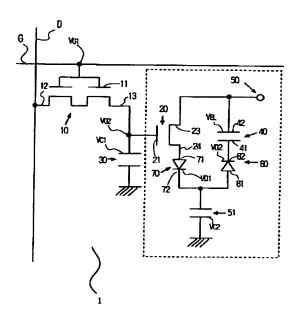
5 6 第4のTFT 7 0 第1のダイオード

80 第2のダイオード

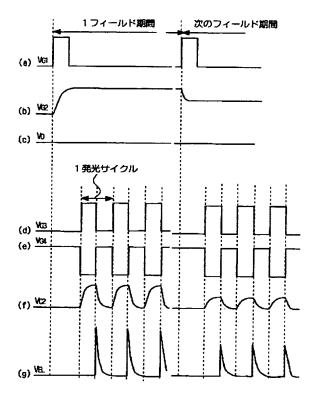
【図1】



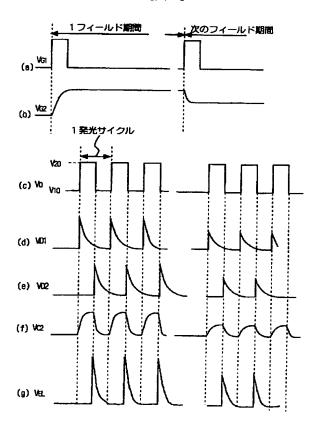
【図3】



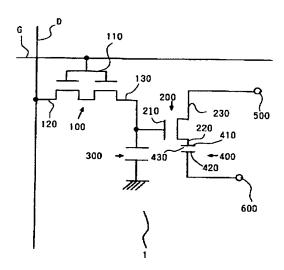
【図2】



[図4]



【図5】



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Bibliography

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- (51) [International Patent Classification (6th Edition)]

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G09G 3/30
3/20 624
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[FI]

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3/20 624 B
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[Address] 2-5-5, Keihan Hon-dori, Moriguchi-shi, Osaka A SANYO Electric stock meeting in the company

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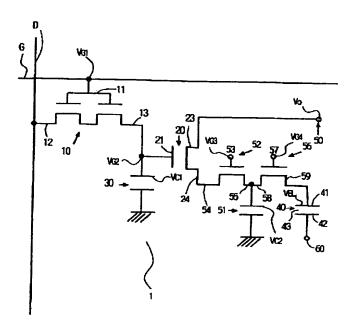
Epitome

(57) [Abstract]

[Technical problem] The current amount of supply to an EL element can be controlled easily, and the actuation circuit of EL display which aims at homogeneous improvement in the amount of luminescence between each display pixel is offered.

[Means for Solution] EL element 40 which consists of the light emitting device layer pinched between an anode plate, cathode, and these two electrodes, 1st TFT10 by which the drain electrode 12 was connected to the drain signal line D, and the gate electrode 11 was connected to the gate signal line G, respectively, The source electrode equips 3rd TFT52 with the 2nd TFT by which the drain electrode was connected to the actuation power source 50, and the gate electrode was connected to the source electrode of 1st TFT10. Between the 2nd TFT20 and EL element 40 Charge and discharge are repeated in the capacity 51 for charge between the 3rd and 4th TFT(s) by 3rd and 4th TFT(s) 52 and 56 switched according to a 10kHz external signal, and a current is supplied to EL element 40 by the discharge.

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The actuation circuit of a electroluminescence display characterized by providing the following. The electroluminescent element equipped with an anode plate and cathode The 1st thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to the drain signal line, and the gate electrode was connected to the gate signal line for the source electrode at retention volume, respectively The 2nd thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to the actuation power source of said electroluminescent element, and the gate electrode was connected to the source electrode of said 1st thin film transistor, respectively It is the capacity for charge between the 3rd and 4th thin film transistors switched according to the external signal of a predetermined period between the source electrode of preparation ******* and this 2nd thin film transistor, and the anode plate of said

JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 4 von 15

electroluminescent element, and these 3rd and 4th thin film transistors.

[Claim 2] Said the 3rd thin film transistor and said 4th thin film transistor are the actuation circuit of the electroluminescence display according to claim 1 characterized by turning on and off by turns.

[Claim 3] The electroluminescent element equipped with an anode plate and the cathode connected to the actuation power source, The 1st thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to the drain signal line, and the gate electrode was connected to the gate signal line for the source electrode at retention volume, respectively, The 2nd thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to said actuation power source of said electroluminescent element, and the gate electrode was connected to the source electrode of said 1st thin film transistor, respectively, While the 1st diode and 2nd diode are connected to a serial between preparation ********, the source electrode of said 2nd thin film transistor, and the anode plate of said electroluminescent element It is the actuation circuit of the electroluminescence display which is equipped with the capacity for charge between this 1st diode and the 2nd diode, and is characterized by said actuation power source being an actuation power source which supplies periodically different potential.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the actuation circuit of EL display equipped with the electroluminescence ("EL" is called below ElectroLuminescence:.) component and the thin film transistor ("TFT" is called below Thin Film Transistor:.).

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] In recent years, EL display using an EL element attracts attention as a display which replaces CRT and LCD. Moreover, research and development in the display equipped with TFT as a switching element which makes the EL element drive

JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 5 von 15

is also done.

[0003] The circuit diagram of the conventional organic electroluminescence display is shown in <u>drawing 5</u>. As shown in this drawing, the display pixel 1 of the conventional organic electroluminescence display consists of the 1st TFT100, 2nd TFT200, retention volume 300, and organic EL device 400. The gate signal line G which supplies a gate signal, and the drain signal line D which supplies a drain signal lie at right angles, and TFT100,200 which drives an organic EL device 400 and this organic EL device 400 is formed near the crossing of both the signal lines G and D.

[0004] First, 1st TFT100 consists of the gate electrode 110 with which it connects with the gate signal line G, and a gate signal is supplied, a drain electrode 120 with which it connects with the drain signal line D, and a drain signal is supplied, and a source electrode 130 connected to the gate electrode 210 and retention volume 300 of 2nd TFT200. Next, 2nd TFT200 is equipped with the gate electrode 210 connected to the source electrode 130 of 1st TFT100, the source electrode 220 connected to the anode plate 410 of an organic EL device 400, and the drain electrode 230 connected to the actuation power source 500 which is supplied to an organic EL device 400 and drives an organic EL device 400. [0005] Moreover, an organic EL device 400 consists of the light emitting device layer 430 pinched between the anode plate 410 connected to the source electrode 220 of 2nd TFT200, the cathode 420 connected to the pixel electrode 600, this anode plate 410, and cathode 420. If a gate signal is supplied to the gate electrode 110 of 1st TFT100 from the gate signal line G, 1st TFT100 will be turned on and the drain signal supplied from the drain signal line D will be impressed to the 2nd gate electrode 210 and retention volume 300 of TFT200. By it, 2nd TFT200 is turned on, the current according to the gate voltage of 2nd TFT200 flows from the actuation power source 500 to an organic EL device 400, and the light emitting device layer 430 of an organic EL device 400 emits light.

[0006] The anode plate 410 where an organic EL device 400 consists of transparent electrodes, such as ITO (Indium Thin Oxide), the 1st hole transporting bed which consists of MTDATA (4 and 4'-bis(3-methylphenylphenylamino) biphenyl), The 2nd hole transporting bed which consists of TPD (4, 4', 4"-tris(3-methylphenylphenylamino) triphenylanine), The luminous layer which consists of Bebq2 (10-[benzo h] quinolinol-beryllium complex) containing the Quinacridone (Quinacridone) derivative, Laminating formation of the light emitting device layer 430 which consists of each class of the electronic transporting bed which consists of Bebq2, and the cathode 420 which consists of a magnesium indium alloy is carried out in this sequence.

[0007] Moreover, the hole poured in from the anode plate and the electron poured in from cathode recombine an organic EL device inside a luminous layer, it excites the organic molecule which forms a luminous layer, and an exciton produces it. Light is emitted from a luminous layer in the process in which this exciton carries out radiation deactivation, and from a transparent anode plate, this light is emitted to the exterior through a transparence insulating substrate, and emits light.

JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 6 von 15

[8000]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, although it is necessary to make the EL element of each display pixel emit light with the same quantity of light in order to obtain the display uniform and stabilized in the field of EL display Since there was dispersion in the property of 2nd TFT200 with which each display pixel was equipped, in the actuation circuit of the above-mentioned conventional EL display, the amount of currents supplied to an EL element could not be made into homogeneity, but there was a fault that the ununiformity of the amount of currents appeared as display unevenness for every display pixel.

[0009] namely, under TFT manufacture — a mask pattern gap etc. — every — the size of the 2nd TFT — dispersion and every — since the current values which the current value which flows to a drain varies, therefore are supplied to an EL element differ for every display pixel even if the same gate voltage is impressed in the 2nd TFT and the luminescence reinforcement of an EL element will also vary, it will appear as display unevenness. [0010] Then, in view of the above-mentioned conventional fault, it succeeds in this invention, it can control the current amount of supply to an EL element easily, and aims at offering the actuation circuit of EL display which aimed at homogeneous improvement in the amount of luminescence between each display pixel.

[0011]

[Means for Solving the Problem] The electroluminescent element which the actuation circuit of EL display of this invention equipped with an anode plate and cathode, The 1st thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to the drain signal line, and the gate electrode was connected to the gate signal line for the source electrode at retention volume, respectively, The 2nd thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to the actuation power source of an electroluminescent element, and the gate electrode was connected to the source electrode of the 1st thin film transistor, respectively, Between preparation *******, the source electrode of the 2nd thin film transistor, and the anode plate of an electroluminescent element It has the capacity for charge between the 3rd and 4th thin film transistors switched according to the external signal of a predetermined period, and these 3rd and 4th thin film transistors.

[0012] Moreover, the 3rd thin film transistor and 4th thin film transistor are turned on and off by turns. Moreover, the electroluminescent element which the actuation circuit of EL display of this invention equipped with an anode plate and the cathode connected to the actuation power source, The 1st thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to the drain signal line, and the gate electrode was connected to the gate signal line for the source electrode at retention volume, respectively, The 2nd thin film transistor by which the drain electrode was connected to the actuation power source of said electroluminescent element, and the gate electrode was connected to the source electrode of the 1st thin film transistor, respectively, While the 1st diode and 2nd diode are connected to a serial between preparation *******, the source electrode of the 2nd thin film transistor, and the anode plate

'JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 7 von 15

of an electroluminescent element While having the capacity for charge between these 1st diodes and the 2nd diode, it has the actuation power source which supplies periodically different potential.

[0013]

[Embodiment of the Invention] The actuation circuit of EL display of <gestalt of the 1st operation> this invention is explained below. <u>Drawing 1</u> is the circuit diagram of EL display equipped with the organic EL device of the gestalt of this operation, and TFT. <u>Drawing 2</u> The signal VG 1 with which (a) is supplied to the gate electrode of the 1st TFT The signal VC with which the signal VG 4 with which the signal VG 3 with which the signal VG 2 with which (b) is supplied to the gate electrode of the 2nd TFT, and (c) are supplied to the signal VO of an actuation power source, and (d) is supplied to the gate electrode of the 3rd TFT, and (e) are supplied to the gate electrode of the 4th TFT, and (f) are accumulated in the capacity for charge (g) is the signal waveform diagram of the signal VEL of luminescence of an organic EL device.

[0014] The actuation circuit of EL display of the gestalt of this operation consists of the 1st TFT10, 2nd TFT20, retention volume 30, organic EL device 40, actuation power source 50, 3rd and 4th TFT(s) 52 and 56, and capacity 51 for charge. As shown in <u>drawing 1</u>, the 1st TFT11 and retention volume 15 are the same above-mentioned circuitry as usual and the above-mentioned actuation approach.

[0015] The gate electrode 21 of 2nd TFT20 is connected to the source electrode 13 of 1st TFT10, and one electrode of retention volume 30, and the drain electrode 23 is connected to the actuation power source 50 of an organic EL device 40. Moreover, the source electrode 24 is connected to the drain electrode 54 of 3rd TFT52. The signals VG3 and VG4 respectively periodic from the outside are supplied to the gate electrodes 53 and 57 of 3rd and 4th TFT(s) 52 and 56. These signals VG3 and VG4 are signals which the phase reversed mutually. Moreover, the source electrode 55 of 3rd TFT52 and the drain electrode 58 of 4th TFT56 are connected. The capacity 51 for charge is connected between these 3rd and 4th TFT(s) 52 and 56. Moreover, the source electrode 59 of 4th TFT56 is connected to the anode plate 41 of an organic EL device 40, and the cathode 42 of an organic EL device 40 is connected to the display electrode 60.

[0016] Thus, the display panel of EL display is formed by arranging the display pixel 1 which consists of a constituted organic EL device and TFT in the shape of a matrix. Next, the actuation approach of EL display of this invention is explained according to <u>drawing 1</u> and <u>drawing 2</u>. Gate signal VG1 of the gate signal line G is supplied to the gate electrode 11 of 1st TFT10 like <u>drawing 2</u> (a), and 1st TFT10 is turned on. If it does so, the drain signal from the drain signal line D is supplied to the 2nd gate electrode 21 and retention volume 30 of TFT20, as shown in <u>drawing 2</u> (b), VG2 will be impressed to 2nd TFT20, and 1 field period maintenance of the ON state will be carried out (one electrode potential VC 1 of retention volume 30 turns into the same potential as VG2 at this time).

[0017] If it does so, the electrical potential difference according to the electrical potential

JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 8 von 15

difference VG 2 of the gate electrode 21 will be supplied to the drain electrode 54 of 3rd TFT52 from the actuation power source 50 (potential V0). At this time, the signal levels VG3 and VG4 shown in the gate electrodes 53 and 57 of 3rd and 4th TFT(s) 52 and 56 at drawing 2 (d) and (e) are supplied. As shown in this drawing, the phase has reversed signals VG3 and VG4 mutually, and 3rd and 4th TFT(s) 52 and 56 are turned on by turns by it.

[0018] That is, as for the electrical potential difference VC 2 of the capacity 51 for charge, a signal VG 4 will be charged if a signal VG 3 turns into an OFF signal by the ON signal like drawing 2 (f), and by the OFF signal, a signal VG 3 will discharge, if a signal VG 4 turns into an ON signal. Thus, charge and discharge (one-shot photocycle) are repeated by signals VG3 and VG4. Therefore, since 4th TFT56 is an OFF state when 3rd TFT52 is turned on, the electrical potential difference of the actuation power source 50 supplied to the drain electrode 54 of 3rd TFT52 through 2nd TFT20 is accumulated in the capacity 51 for charge.

[0019] Moreover, when 3rd TFT52 is turned off, since 4th TFT56 is an ON state, the charge accumulated in the capacity 51 for charge discharges. In this way, 3rd TFT52 is supplied to the anode plate 41 of an organic EL device 40 through the 4th drain electrode 58 and source electrode 59 of TFT56, when 4th TFT56 is turned on by the OFF state by the charge charged by the capacity 51 for charge when 3rd TFT52 was an ON state. By doing so, an organic EL device 40 emits light for every one-shot photocycle like VEL of drawing 2 (g) according to an electrical potential difference VC 2.

[0020] It explains that it is stabilized in an organic EL device and a current is supplied here even if the property of the 2nd TFT in each display pixel varies here, respectively. First, the current value which flows to the drain when impressing a certain gate voltage assumes that it is Ida and Idb (Ida>Idb), respectively, namely, there were the 2nd TFTa and b in which the current characteristic differed.

[0021] If it is TFTa and b from which a current value differs when the actuation circuit of an EL display like before is used Although the luminescence reinforcement of the organic EL device connected to the TFTa is strong since TFTa (Ida) with one high current value can supply many currents to an organic EL device Since TFTb (Idb) with the low current value of another side cannot supply many currents to an organic EL device like TFTa, luminescence reinforcement becomes weak rather than the organic EL device by which the luminescence reinforcement of the organic EL device connected to the TFTb was connected to TFTa. Therefore, dispersion will arise in the brightness of each organic EL device connected to TFTa and TFTb.

[0022] However, when the 2nd TFT20 and 3rd TFT30 in <u>drawing 1</u> are turned on according to the actuation circuit of EL display of this invention, Since it will charge to the electrical potential difference VG 2 impressed to the capacity 51 for charge at the gate of 2nd TFT20 (VG2=VC2) and the current value according to the charged electrical potential difference will be supplied to an organic EL device Even if it is each 2nd TFTa mentioned above and

¹JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 9 von 15

TFT from which a current characteristic differs like b, the same current value will be supplied to an organic EL device. In other words, although time amount even if a difference is in the current characteristic of TFT, until it charges differs, the electrical potential difference of the charge urine capacity which is charged and reaches is the same. [0023] Therefore, since the current supplied to an organic EL device is a current according to the electrical potential difference charged by the capacity for charge, though the property of the 2nd TFT varies, the current of the same value will flow to an organic EL device. That is, since the same current value as the organic EL device of each display pixel which is not related to the property can be supplied even if the property of each 2nd TFT varies, the amount of luminescence of each organic EL device becomes equal, and the display of uniform brightness can be obtained.

[0024] In addition, what is necessary is just to determine the repeat of turning on and off by the signal supplied to the 3rd and 4th TFT(s) from the exterior, i.e., the one-shot photocycle of the organic EL device of 1 field period, like 10kHz, corresponding to time amount until it is impressed by the capacity for charge from the 2nd TFT.

Below in <the 2nd operation gestalt>, the 2nd operation gestalt of the actuation circuit of EL display of this invention is shown.

[0025] <u>Drawing 3</u> is the circuit diagram of the 2nd operation gestalt of this invention, and <u>drawing 4</u> is the signal waveform diagram of each signal. <u>Drawing 4</u> The signal VG 1 with which (a) is supplied to the gate electrode of the 1st TFT The signal VG 2 with which (b) is supplied to the gate electrode of the 2nd TFT The signal VD1 with which (c) is supplied to the signal VO of an actuation power source, and (d) is supplied to the 1st diode, the signal VD2 with which (e) is supplied to the 2nd diode, the signal VC 2 with which (f) is accumulated in the capacity for charge, and (g) are the signal waveform diagrams of the signal VEL of luminescence of an organic EL device.

[0026] As shown in <u>drawing 3</u>, about the 1st TFT21 and retention volume 23, it is the same as the circuitry of the 1st operation gestalt, and actuation. The gate electrode 21 of 2nd TFT20 is connected to the source electrode 13 of 1st TFT10, and one electrode of retention volume 30, and the drain electrode 23 is connected to the actuation power source 50 of an organic EL device 40. Moreover, the source electrode 24 is connected to the anode 71 of the 1st diode 70.

[0027] The cathode 72 of the 1st diode 70 and the anode 81 of the 2nd diode 80 are connected to the serial. Between these 1st and 2nd diodes 70 and 80, one electrode of the capacity 51 for charge is connected. The electrode of another side of the capacity 51 for charge is grounded. The cathode 82 of the 2nd diode 80 is connected to the anode plate 41 of an organic EL device 40.

[0028] Moreover, the cathode 42 of an organic EL device 40 is connected to the actuation power source 50. Thus, an organic electroluminescence display is formed by arranging the constituted display pixel 1 in the shape of a matrix. Here, the electrical potential difference which the actuation power source 50 supplies is explained according to <= [A

JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 10 von 15

HREF="/Tokujitu/tjitemdrw.ipdl?N0000=239&N0500=1E_N/;>>=8=] <:///&N0001=8&N0552=9&N0553=000005" TARGET="tjitemdrw"> drawing 3 and <u>drawing</u> 4.

[0029] Gate signal VG1 of the gate signal line G is supplied to the gate electrode 11 of 1st TFT10 like <u>drawing 4</u> (a), and 1st TFT10 is turned on. If it does so, the drain signal from the drain signal line D is supplied to the 2nd gate electrode 21 and retention volume 30 of TFT20, as shown in <u>drawing 4</u> (b), VG2 will be impressed to 2nd TFT20, and 1 field period maintenance of the ON state will be carried out (one electrode potential VC 1 of retention volume 30 turns into the same potential as VG2 at this time).

[0030] The actuation power source 50 is 10kHz in a predetermined period, for example, frequency, as shown in drawing 4 (c), and it supplies the electrical potential difference V20 by turns at the time of an electrical potential difference V10 and discharge at the time of the charge for making an organic EL device 40 emit light. At this time, at the time of charge, an electrical potential difference V10 is an electrical potential difference higher than the electrical potential difference charged by the capacity 51 for charge, and an electrical potential difference V20 is an electrical potential difference lower than the electrical potential difference charged by the capacity 51 for charge at the time of discharge. [0031] namely, when the electrical potential difference of the actuation power source 50 is an electrical potential difference V10 at the time of charge A current flows to the sense of the 1st diode 70, and the capacity 51 for charge (drawing 4 (d)) is charged (drawing 4 (f)), and when the electrical potential difference of the actuation power source 50 is an electrical potential difference V20 at the time of discharge A current flows to the sense of the 2nd diode 80, it discharges from the capacity 51 for charge (drawing 4 (e)), the current is supplied to an organic EL device (drawing 4 (f)) 40, and light is emitted (drawing 4 (g)). [0032] At this time, while a current does not flow to the sense of the diode 80 of another side while flowing to the sense of the 1st diode 70, but the current is flowing to the sense of the 2nd diode 80, a current does not flow to the diode 70 of another side. Therefore, the capacity 51 for charge will repeat charge and discharge the period by supplying an electrical potential difference V20 by turns a predetermined period at the time of an electrical potential difference V10 and discharge at the time of charge of the actuation power source 50.

[0033] Thus, the actuation approach until the electrical potential difference of the actuation power source 50 is supplied to an organic EL device 40 and emits light is explained paying attention to the equal circuit of the field enclosed with the frame of a dotted line. 2nd TFT20 is turned on (drawing 4 (b)), and the electrical potential difference according to gate voltage VG2 (drawing 4 (b)) of 2nd TFT20 is charged by the capacity 51 for charge via the period and the 1st diode 70 with which the electrical potential difference V10 is supplied from the actuation power source 50 at the time of charge. And if the actuation power source 50 switches to an electrical potential difference V20 after that at the time of discharge, the charge charged by the capacity 51 for charge will be supplied to an organic EL device 40

² JP-A-H11-272235 Seite 11 von 15

via the 2nd diode 80, and will emit light.

[0034] This actuation is repeatedly performed [between the periods which are writing the drain signal in retention volume 30, i.e., the 1 field,] on the frequency of 10kHz like ****. Thus, charge and discharge of a charge will be repeatedly performed in the capacity 51 for charge by supplying an electrical potential difference V20 from the actuation power source 50 during the period when a drain signal is written once in retention volume repeatedly a fixed period at the time of an electrical potential difference V10 and discharge at the time of charge.

[0035] As the gestalt of the 1st operation explained, therefore, the current value supplied to an organic EL device Since it is a current value according to the electrical potential difference VG 2 charged by the capacity for charge, i.e., the electrical potential difference of the gate electrode of the 2nd TFT, and the stable current can be supplied to an organic EL device though the property of the 2nd TFT of each display pixel varied In each display pixel, EL display of the uniform amount of luminescence can be obtained.

[0036] In addition, what is necessary is just to determine a supply cycle with an electrical potential difference, i.e., the one-shot photocycle of an organic EL device, like 10kHz at the time of an electrical potential difference and discharge at the time of charge, corresponding to time amount until it is impressed by the capacity for charge from the 2nd TFT. Moreover, in the gestalt of this operation, while the signal wiring which supplies the signal for switching ON/OFF of the 3rd and 4th TFT(s) like the gestalt of the 1st operation from the outside is omissible, a numerical aperture can be further raised by the abbreviation.

[Effect of the Invention] According to the actuation circuit of EL display of this invention, a current can be supplied to an EL element, without being influenced of property dispersion of the 2nd TFT, and the homogeneity of the amount of luminescence of each display pixel in EL display panel can be raised.

[Translation done.]

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DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the circuit diagram showing the 1st operation gestalt of this invention.

[Drawing 2] It is the signal waveform diagram showing the gestalt of operation of the 1st of this invention.

[Drawing 3] It is the circuit diagram showing the 2nd operation gestalt of this invention.

[Drawing 4] It is the signal waveform diagram showing the gestalt of operation of the 2nd of this invention.

[Drawing 5] It is the circuit diagram of the conventional EL display.

[Description of Notations]

10 1st TFT

20 2nd TFT

30 Retention Volume

50 Power Source

51 Capacity for Charge

53 3rd TFT

56 4th TFT

70 1st Diode

80 2nd Diode

[Translation done.]

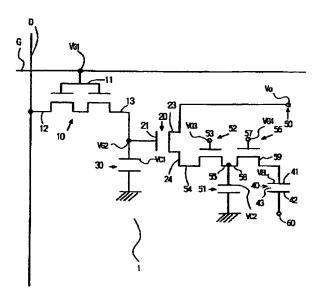
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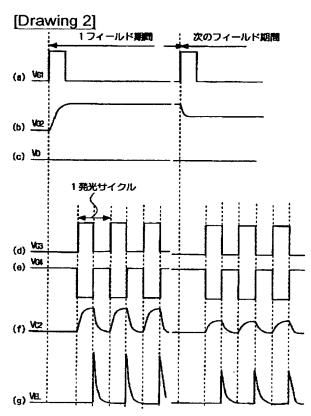
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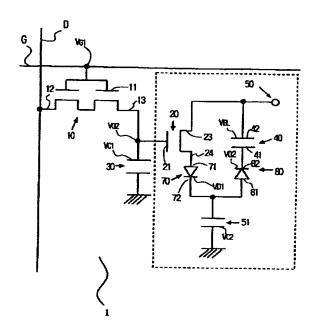
DRAWINGS

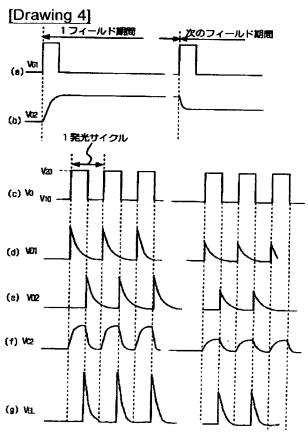
[Drawing 1]



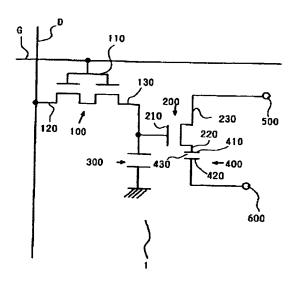


[Drawing 3]





[Drawing 5]



[Translation done.]